

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The final Office Action of November 3, 2004 has been received and contents carefully reviewed. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1, 3, 4, 9 and 22-25.

By this Amendment, Applicants amend claim 15. Accordingly, claims 1, 3, 4, 9, 15, 17 and 22 -25 are currently pending in the present application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 15 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee (U.S. Patent No. 5,895,936) in view of den Boer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,656,824) and Applicants' Related Art (ARA). Applicants traverse these rejections.

Claim 15 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 15 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "... wherein the first and second switching electrodes have a dual layer structure comprised of a transparent conducting layer and a non-transparent metal layer, both of which are in contact with the ohmic contact layer, and at least one layer of the second switching electrode is connected to the first sensor electrode." None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 15 and claim 17 which depends therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner deems that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number (202) 496-7500. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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Respectfully submitted,



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